On Self Inquiry & the Arts

The closer one examines the underlying reason behind an action. It should provide a clearer perspective on the underlying motive. A quiet moment of reflection, providing an opportunity to question the various decisions one has decided to act upon. A tranquil moment of inactivity creates a space to examine thoughts in finer detail. To gain a deeper understanding of why certain thoughts influence the mind in a particular manner. This provides the individual with a unique perspective. As it creates an opportunity for genuine self-inquiry. Which aids in the process of examining the underlying impulse. Once an individual becomes conscious of certain impulses that spur the mind to act. Focus naturally shifts to how one can enact healthy change. Since insight alone is not enough to usher in significant change. As it requires a genuine commitment on behalf of the individual.

Any hesitation with regards to commitment may contribute to unforeseen difficulties. Given the degree to which focus determines the extent of understanding. Unless a mind genuinely seeks to broaden its comprehension. It will likely choose to remain within the world's comfortable illusions. Since the thought of confronting the unknown proves too unsettling. The choice to break free of the various means of control. A choice that will no doubt test the strength of an individual's conviction. Given the consequences for going against the grain of society's interests. Unless a desire for change is aligned with a loftier aspiration. That is in the interests of other members of a society as much as oneself. The decision to focus one's effort upon creating something that embodies the values one aspires to. May ultimately prove to be a futile endeavour. Should it manifest in a way that fails to connect with the hearts and minds of others.

To this end, the creative impulse is tethered by a capacity to pluck an emotional chord within the hearts of like-minded individuals. Although a piece may capture

the intended spark of its creator. There will always be times where an artist's intention is lost to an audience. As the creator's vision fails to evoke the emotional response that was initially intended. Failure to evoke a particular response, leaves a creator questioning every aspect of the work. To what end can a piece be *revised* to sidestep these structural shortcomings? Questions of this nature being at the forefront of the creator's mind. Given the endeavour's reception rests upon the public's positive critique of it. The weight that accompanies this realization. Only contributes to a restlessness of the artist's mind. As the positive reception of a piece, is the primary concern of a dedicated craftsman.